

# TUSCANY & THE ITALIAN LAKES

## WHERE DREAMS UNFOLD

MAY 21–31, 2026



Hosted by AAA Western and Central New York's President and CEO Marke Dickinson

**JOIN US FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE ESCAPE—WHERE EVERY SIP OF WINE,** every sunset, and every historic town leaves a lasting imprint on your soul. Step into a world of rolling vineyards, medieval towns, and shimmering lakes on this unforgettable Italian adventure. From the breathtaking countryside of Tuscany to the tranquil shores of Lake Como, this immersive journey blends luxury, culture, and history in perfect harmony. Escape to a stunning private villa in Tuscany, where days are filled with wine tastings, gourmet dining, and explorations of Siena, Florence, and the Chianti region. Wander through the medieval streets of San Gimignano, admire the iconic Leaning Tower of Pisa, and indulge in the renowned wines of Montepulciano. Then, venture north to the enchanting shores of Lake Como, where you'll glide across the water on a private boat tour, visit opulent villas, and cross into Switzerland to the alpine wonder of St. Moritz. With handpicked accommodations, private guides, and unforgettable moments of reflection, this journey offers the perfect blend of adventure, relaxation, and cultural discovery.

### INCLUDES

- ▶ Roundtrip motorcoach between Syracuse, Rochester, or Buffalo and Toronto with driver gratuity included
- ▶ Economy flights from Toronto to Rome and Milan to Toronto
- ▶ 9 nights deluxe accommodations
- ▶ 24 meals:  
9 breakfasts • 6 lunches •  
9 dinners • Gratuities included with all meals
- ▶ Deluxe transportation on tour
- ▶ All touring, admissions, and entrance fees per itinerary
- ▶ Services of professional tour director and local guides with gratuities included
- ▶ Services of a AAA Group Travel Tour Host



## THURSDAY, MAY 21 ▶ TRAVEL TO ROME

Travel comfortably by motorcoach with a AAA Group Travel Tour Host from Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo to Toronto Airport for an overnight flight to Rome.

## FRIDAY, MAY 22 ▶ DEPART FOR TUSCANY

Arrive in Rome, meet your tour director, and transfer to Tuscany's scenic countryside. Settle into a luxurious private villa for six nights. After an orientation and light lunch, visit Fattoria Torre e Cona Winery for a tour and tasting. In the evening, enjoy happy hour, dinner, and shared reflections on the day's experiences.

## SATURDAY, MAY 23 ▶ SIENA

After breakfast, depart to Siena. Enjoy a guided walking tour through the UNESCO-listed historic center, known for its medieval charm, art, and famous Palio horse race. Learn about Saint Catherine of Siena and her unique view of God. Enjoy free time to explore before returning to the villa for happy hour and dinner.

## SUNDAY, MAY 24 ▶ CHIANTI REGION

Visit Tuscany's Chianti Region. First, pay tribute to over 4,000 fallen American service members at the World War II American Cemetery near Florence. Then, visit the village of Greve in Chianti before heading to Tenuta Torciano Winery, where owner Pierluigi Giachi will guide you through wine tasting and pairing, followed by a homemade lunch prepared with local, organic ingredients. In the afternoon, explore San Gimignano, the "Manhattan of Tuscany," with its medieval towers, quaint shops, and unique attractions. Return to the villa in the evening for happy hour and dinner.

## MONDAY, MAY 25 ▶ FLORENCE

Take a private transfer to Florence for a guided walking tour with a seasoned tour guide with deep ties to the city. Visit the historic Ponte Vecchio, famous for its gold and diamond shops, and explore Piazza Signoria, home to Florence's City Hall and remarkable Renaissance sculptures. At the Accademia Museum, admire Michelangelo's iconic statue of David and his unfinished "Prisoners." Enjoy free time exploring Florence before returning to the villa for happy hour and dinner.

## TUESDAY, MAY 26 ▶ PISA

After breakfast, depart for Pisa, a historic maritime city on Italy's western coast. Enjoy a private guided walking tour, exploring landmarks such as the iconic Leaning Tower of Pisa and the Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta.

After an included lunch, continue to Lucca, a charming city nestled at the foot of the Apuan Alps. Known for its well-preserved Renaissance walls, Lucca offers a glimpse into its Roman and medieval past. Stroll through Piazza dell'Anfiteatro and admire the city's towers and villas. Return to the villa for happy hour and dinner.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 27 ▶ MONTEPULCIANO

Today, visit Montepulciano, a picturesque medieval and Renaissance hilltop town. Stroll along its charming streets, admire historic landmarks, and sample its renowned wines, Vino Nobile di Montepulciano and Rosso di Montepulciano. Savor a delightful lunch and wine tasting at a local winery before continuing to Pienza, a beautifully designed Renaissance village envisioned by Pope Pius II. Famous for its world-class Pecorino cheese, you'll have the chance to sample this regional delicacy. Return to the villa for dinner.



## THURSDAY, MAY 28 ▶ LAKE COMO

After a private transfer from the villa, arrive in the charming village of Varenna, where the stunning shores of Lake Como will be your home for the next three nights. Check into your hotel and enjoy a light lunch before embarking on a private boat tour of the lake, including a visit to the breathtaking Villa Balbianello. Lake Como, one of Italy's most picturesque lakes, is known for its deep waters, scenic beauty, and celebrity residences. Explore its enchanting landscapes before concluding the day with a delightful dinner.

## FRIDAY, MAY 29 ▶ ST. MORITZ

Travel to the border town of Tirano, nestled at the foothills of the Alps. Board the Bernina Express train for an unforgettable journey to Saint Moritz. As you travel through the picturesque landscape, the train crosses dramatic viaducts, loops through tunnels, and passes glaciers, alpine valleys, and sparkling lakes. The scenic views offer many opportunities for stunning photographs of the Alps' natural beauty. Upon arrival in Saint Moritz, take some free time to explore this exclusive resort town, known for its elegance and charm. Don't forget to stop by a local chocolatier to indulge in a sweet treat! Afterward, enjoy lunch on your own before returning to Varenna. In the evening, take the opportunity to share personal reflections on the day's experiences during a casual discussion with your tour director and fellow travelers, followed by a delightful dinner.

## SATURDAY, MAY 30 ▶ VARENNA

Begin the day with an optional hike to Varenna's Castle Vezio, then enjoy free time to explore the village. In the afternoon, take a private boat to Bellagio and visit the beautiful botanical gardens at Villa Melzi. Located at the tip of the peninsula between the lake's two southern arms, Bellagio offers stunning views of the Alps and a mild climate year-round. Later, savor a wine tasting and light lunch in Bellagio before having time to explore. Return to Varenna in the evening for a closing banquet dinner.

## SUNDAY, MAY 31 ▶ RETURN HOME

Following breakfast, transfer to the Milan airport for your return trip home.